

SEVERELY HANDLED

Anderson County Gets Much Free Advertising

SENATOR TILLMAN TALKS

He Rightly Thinks That the Citizens of the Entire State Should Not be Held to Account

The Philadelphia North American has in its issues of Monday and Tuesday inaugurated a crusade against the system of "slavery" which obtains in Anderson county.

Mr. Geo. E. Prince of Anderson, a member of the general assembly and a very prominent lawyer, was in the city yesterday and stated that the grand jury is composed of men who will do their duty, and that he can rest assured that the conclusion reached will be a proper finding.

Another gentleman recalled that over two years ago, Judge Gary presiding, the grand jury of Anderson had some-thing of the kind called to its attention.

At the session of the general assembly last week, a bill was introduced to provide for a constitutional amendment to increase the jurisdiction of magistrates in cases of violation of labor contracts.

Mr. Welling of Fairfield opposed the measure vehemently and exclaimed that in Anderson county a veritable system of slavery exists, that men are bought and sold as chattels.

This was indignantly denied by Mr. R. B. A. Robinson, and the two members of the general assembly nearly came to blows.

Mr. Welling's repeated charges prepared the legislature for the announcement that a week later, that Judge Benet had the matter called to his attention by an anonymous letter and that he had given the grand jury instructions to investigate the matter.

The Philadelphia North American, after the court had ordered the investigation, sent a staff correspondent to Anderson and now claims to have made an "exposure." Half page illustrations fill up the front page of the paper and the Anderson "slave tariff" is depicted in pictures.

There are columns upon columns of interviews with preachers and others and the staff correspondent, writing from Columbia, describes the conditions as he saw them when in Anderson.

Among the features of the "exposures" there were numerous interviews with congressmen.

The following is the story of the Washington correspondent.

Washington, Feb. 25th. The North American's exposure of the revival of slavery in South Carolina was read with amazement by congress.

That such a condition could exist in that part of the United States in this day was almost beyond the belief of such people as congressmen.

A great many lawyers in congress refused to give an off-hand opinion, declaring that the matter was too serious, but all agreed that, whether conscious or not, the North American should continue its work by making the special investigation of the criminal wrongs involved in the pernicious system.

The North American scoured the following expressions from Representative Asbury C. Latimer, of Belton, Anderson county, S. C.

"Yes, we sell negroes in South Carolina. I see nothing so inhuman or outrageous in this statement of facts. When I say we sell negroes, I wish it distinctly understood that not one of the better class of the race is subjected to this treatment."

Here the South Carolina representative of the slave district stopped, and for several seconds looked at the head lines of The North American.

"I wish to say," he said, "that I don't approve of the exposure as it is carried on. While the principle of selling men to make them pay for violations of the law may be wholly wrong, I do think that it is now carried too far. The governor and the courts of South Carolina have, and are, investigating the matter, and I feel assured that justice will be done."

MURDER AND SUICIDE

Dr. W. F. Aiken Shoots His Beautiful Wife, Then Himself

Dr. W. F. Aiken, a leading specialist of Savannah, Ga., shot and killed his wife in their bedroom at an early hour Wednesday morning. The report of the pistol awakened their little son, aged eight years. In his night clothes and barefooted, the child ran in the street to call a policeman. When the officer entered the house he found Mrs. Aiken dead on the bed, with a bullet hole through her head, and Dr. Aiken, with a pistol in hand, lying on the floor dead.

After shooting his wife he had placed the weapon to his own head and shot a bullet through his brain. The child said that he had heard his father count, "one two three," and then the pistol shot.

It was developed at the corner's inquest this afternoon that Dr. Aiken was about 35 years old. He was born in New York, and was graduated at Yale at the age 20 years. After graduation he was connected for a time with the health department of the city of New York. Then he took a special course in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and came south to settle. He married Miss Anna K. Potter, daughter of the Rev. A. C. Potter, a clergyman of New Bedford, Mass. The Rev. Mr. Potter was a close personal friend of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Dr. Aiken was devoted to science, and was an inventor of some note. He is the originator of many ophthalmic instruments that are now in common use all over the country. He refused to patent his inventions, saying that he wanted the benefit of mankind. He had a very large and lucrative practice, and was in independent circumstances. Mrs. Aiken was a lady of great beauty and many accomplishments. They leave four little children.

CHEATING THE GOVERNMENT

The report of the special committee of Congress which investigated the employment rolls was made public Thursday by Chairman Moody. It says that some of the faults observed in the administration of the house are attributable to the persistence of members of the house in urging upon the officers the appointment of their constituents and friends to subordinate places.

In the offices of the clerk and bookkeeper the committee report that the clerks were engaged in the transfer of employes from the duties of the positions to which they were appointed to other duties, unjustifiable payments of compensation to employes while absent from their posts of duty, and the making of salaries.

The committee found that the work done over six months in nearly four years, during which he has drawn pay, and has not been in Washington for eleven or twelve months. Many cases of contributions by employes of salaries were mentioned, one of them in the last congress to the amount of \$36,000. It is explained that these contributions went toward equipping salaries of other employes.

The committee finds no evidence of the practice of assessment, contribution or gift, where recklessness is proven, to give damages where such wrongful act, neglect or default was the result of reckless, willful or malicious conduct.

Section 2316. Every such action shall be for the benefit of the wife or husband, or child, or children, of the person whose death shall have been caused; and if there be no such wife, or husband, or child, or children, then for the benefit of the parent or parents; and if there be no such, then for the benefit of the heirs at law of the person whose death shall have been caused; and if there be no such, then for the benefit of the person whose death shall have been caused; and if there be no such, then for the benefit of the person whose death shall have been caused.

The purpose of this measure is to compel corporations, railroad companies, etc., where recklessness is proven, to give damages in the way of punishment to the relatives of the party who was negligently killed.

The Supreme Court of South Carolina has always held under Lord Campbell Act that while a person could recover damages in punishment as well as actual damages where a person was killed by a R. R. Co., yet if that same person was killed instead of crippled the relatives of the deceased person could not recover actual damages and could not punish the R. R. Co., by making them give punitive damages for their carelessness.

This Act which Senator Brantley succeeded in passing after a hard fight over the Supreme Court of S. C., and now allows a jury to give punitive damages where a person is killed as well as where he is crippled.

Looting in China. Mr. George Lynch, the war artist and correspondent, gave his lecture, "In the Heart of Peking," at New York. Among the stereotyped views with which Mr. Lynch illustrated his lecture were those of the apartments of the emperor and empress of China in the sacred palace in the forbidden city.

These rooms of state had never been photographed, nor had a photographer ever set foot within the sacred walls until Mr. Lynch and J. C. Hemmet entered with the allied troops. Mr. Lynch had some surprises in the shape of photographs which show how the soldiers of certain nations conducted themselves when the opportunity to loot came.

Senator Tillman in an interview said: "I am surprised that a respectable newspaper—and I consider The North American one of the most respectable in this country—should lend itself to any sensational accusations against the people of a State of this character."

The existence in one county of South Carolina of an unlawful system of contracts had already been called to the attention of the grand jury of that county by the presiding judge, who

A NEGRO BURNED

What Changes Were Made at the Recent Legislative Session.

There were few county government measures passed by the legislature of 1900. There was a committee of 40 appointed to draw up a general bill. This measure was presented to the house—and continued until next session as were nearly all other important general bills.

Senator Dean introduced a bill to reorganize the county government of Greenville county from \$2 to \$1. Additional amendments relating to the number of days for road working were made for the counties of Union and Darlington. The commutation tax for Laurens and Florence, was reduced from \$150 to \$1, and for Hampton was increased from \$1 to \$2.

Section 1. That section 4 of an act entitled "An act to amend sections 3 of an act entitled 'An act to provide for the several counties of the State, as it relates to the maintaining and working of the roads and highways in the State,'" approved 19th of February, A. D. 1900, be amended on line 55, by inserting between the words "Fairfield" and "Greenwood," the word "Greenville," and on line 59 by striking out the word "Greenville"; and by inserting after Greenwood the words "and Chesterfield," and by striking out the word "Darlington" before the word "Greenwood," and by inserting between the words "Lexington" and "Williamsburg," and by inserting between the words "day," and "providing for the Union two days," the word "Union two days," and by striking out the word "Hampton" from the proviso after the word "Laurens one dollar" and inserting the word "Hampton" between the words "Georgetown" and "Horry," so that said section, when so amended, shall read:

Section 4. That all male persons able to perform the labor herein required, between the age of 18 and 55 years, except in the counties of Oconee and Pickens, where the ages shall be between the ages of 16 and 55 years, and except in the counties of Greenwood and Chesterfield, where the age shall be between the ages of 18 and 50; and except in Abbeville, Cherokee, Greenville, Horry, Orangeburg, Spartanburg and Union counties, where the ages shall be from 16 to 60 years, except ministers of the gospel in actual and permanent connection with the military service of this State, and persons who served in the late war between the State, and all persons actually employed in the military service of the State, shall be required annually to perform the labor hereinafter provided, labor on the highways under the direction of the overseer of the road district in which he shall reside, as follows:

The county of Laurens five days, in the counties of Bamberg, Chester, Clarendon, Colleton, Dorchester, Edgefield, Horry, Newberry, Oconee, Saluda, Orangeburg and Sumter, six days, in the counties of Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Georgetown, Hampton and Lincoln, eight days, and in the county of Richland ten days. In two days provided, that ten hour's labor shall be held to be a day's work; provided, that any county board of commissioners of any county may cause to be levied a road tax not to exceed one mill on all real property of any township in their county, which, when equated to a written petition, signed by two thirds of the freeholders of such township, such tax to be collected as other taxes, and to be expended on the roads and highways of such townships (except in the counties of Laurens and Lincoln) shall not be necessary. And Bamberg county—In Bamberg county each special school district now or hereafter established shall be a road district, and the county board of commissioners may cause to be levied a road tax not to exceed one mill on all real property of any township in their county, which, when equated to a written petition, signed by two thirds of the freeholders of such township, such tax to be collected as other taxes, and to be expended on the roads and highways of such townships (except in the counties of Laurens and Lincoln) shall not be necessary.

When the body was taken down and laid apart the fragments were taken from the fire and scattered about. One man, while the feet still protruded from the wall, was carried away. At 3 o'clock there was nothing left of the body except a small section of the trunk and the back of the head. Busy hands kept the burning faggots piled upon the roasting segments. Women came to the scene with their arms full of o'clock the bonfire was removed and the crowd surrounded the fire.

Ward was 27 years old, and leaves a widow and two children. He came here four years ago, from Circoville, O. The statement that he was one time in an insane asylum is denied by his wife. He was a venturesome young man for idleness. The leaders of the mob are unknown, and as public sentiment upholds the lynching, no prosecutions are expected.

Verdi's will, says the London Chronicle, contains very curious items. His residuary legatee is his niece, Maria Verdi, who is married to Signor Carrara. To the infant asylums and to the hospital for the blind in Genoa he bequeathed £1,000. Large sums are also left to the charitable institutions and to the poor of his native village, Roncole, and also to those of Bousseto, where he lived for many years. Then comes the following request: "In the dining room of my villa, St. Agata, will be found two large wooden boxes of great antiquity. I desire that neither shall be opened, but that both be burned immediately after my decease. It is presumed that the two mysterious boxes contained manuscripts of unpublished opera which the master did not wish to see the light."

The company of Augusta capitalists who have recently acquired the Harris Lithia Springs have now assumed control of the property and Harris, the wizard of the waters, who found spring in the wilderness nine years ago and five days ago converted into \$100,000 cash—is about to engage the banking business. If he shall be as successful in his new field as he was in the old field where he found the spring, his venture will be a conspicuous success.—Columbia State.

Four Children Cremated. Four children, 4 to 12 years of age, were cremated in the burning residence of Jacob Balt, at Litchfield, Pa., early Thursday morning.

The Hatred of Foreigners May Last a Long Time. According to the opinion of Sir Chih Chen Loufongluh, Chinese minister in London, anti-foreign sentiment will abide in China long after the present hostilities are settled. His excellency assures that the "barbarians" of the powers program and the "barbarians" committed by some of their troops have given Western civilization an indelible black eye among the Chinese people. The Chinese minister said: "I regret to be forced to the conclusion that the record of the wrongs in China will live in history as a record of ruined opportunities. Not the mere signing of peace terms can remove the pre-conceived impressions which events, in the popular mind, have not only left, but have not extinguished."

Our people have not experienced any of the rebuffing influences which the war were told belonged to the occasion. They had seen European soldiers murder, outrage and steal. They have seen diplomatic demands exacted—some what out of keeping with the philanthropic motives which brought the great nations to our shores. They have seen, in short, the policy of an open door with the door slammed in China's face.

Years ago I translated the lives of Cromwell, Snakescarse, Bismarck, Napoleon, Washington and Lincoln. I wanted to show my countrymen the sort of character that was and should be in the West. I am grieved, as a believer in that character, that the last year's history has failed to support the ideals which I sought to picture.

Lafayette intimates that China is likely to interpose objections to paying heavy indemnity. He thinks none ought to be demanded or given in excess of the actual value of the property destroyed.

Praise for the Second. The Columbia State says Gen. J. Warren Keifer, under whose command the Second South Carolina served in Cuba, writing from his home in Springfield, O., to Col. Willie Jones, former colonel of the Second, says some nice things about that model regiment of volunteers.

An very thing to do for you for a beautiful copy of 'South Carolina in the Spanish-American War,' and I am very grateful to you for the generous and kind things you say of me on page 139 of the book in your history of your regiment. I am glad that you are in the Carolina infantry. I reciprocate the good feeling you express towards me, and I know you must feel that I was always proud to have you and your gallant regiment in my command. I never cease to speak of the promptness of the prompt help you served me in Cuba, and the kind spirit of the officers and men exhibited uniformly towards me. Your example was a good one for all to follow.

Remember me most kindly to any of your officers or men you may meet. Assure them that I shall never forget the regiment, etc.

A Tough Yarn. A newspaper at Kastamansi states, according to a Ceylon paper, that while a postman was shooting in a forest near that place he heard the growling of a bear, which he found under a tree suffering great pain from a large thorn in his paw. The animal permitted the sportsman to extract the thorn, and showed its gratitude by taking the man, by means of waving its paw, to a tree in which was a honey-comb twenty pounds in weight.

COURT GOVERNMENT

How the Members of the House Voted On It.

We have been asked by members of the house of representatives who voted against the bill to repeal the anti-free pass act why neither T. A. State nor The News and Courier printed the vote in detail. To this we replied that we did not know; that the legislative record of the house of representatives is not published in detail, and we were instructed to give the vote by any means on issues affecting important legislation; but that the omission of the vote in this case might be due to an error of judgment on the part of the reporters, or by any constituted a measure of importance. At the request of these members—who, it is hardly necessary to say, voted against the bill—we rectify the omission by reproducing from the journal of the proceedings of the house of representatives of February 8 the following record:

H. 467.—Mr. Spears: A bill to repeal an act entitled "An act to prevent the use of a free pass, express or telegraph frank on any railroad by any United States senator or member of congress from this State, or by any member of the general assembly of this State, or by any State or county official, or by any judge of a court of record in this State," approved December 22d, A. D. 1891.

Mr. Taum moved to strike out the enacting words. Upon that motion the yeas and nays were requested, and it was decided in the negative.

Yeas, 38; nays, 64. Those who voted in the affirmative are: Messrs. Austin, Bacon, Beaufort, Brooks, Dorroh, Elder, Fraser, Gresham, Galluchat, Guter, Hale, Hardin, Hoops, Keels, Kubler, Lisle, Logan, Holmes, McCall, McLaughlin, McLeod, Nischoe, Morgan, Moses, Moss, Price, Redcar, Richards, Tucker, Sanders, Strom, Taum, Thune, W. Thomas, Thompson, Wilson, Wingo and Woodward.—38.

Those who voted in the negative are: Hon. W. F. Stevenson, speaker; Messrs. Ashley, All, Banks, Bates, Bivens, Blease, Brown, Bryan, Butler, Campbell, Clegg, Cooper, Croft, Cram, Dantzier, Dean, Dennis, Dodd, Dominick, Dunbar, Durant, Eflord, Elice, Fox, Freeman, Gardin, Hill, Humphrey, Johnson, Kinsey, Loyer, Little, Lockwood, Lofton, Lyles, Mauldin, Mayson, McEwen, McFadden, McMaster, Nichols, W. L. Parker, Patterson, Rankin, Richardson, C. E. Robinson, R. B. A. Robinson, Robertson, Sinker, J. B. Smith, M. L. Smith, Spears, Lewis, Welling, W. H. West, Williams, Williams and W. Thomas.

Mr. Spears moved to reconsider the vote whereby the bill was ordered to a third reading, and to lay it on the table. Which was agreed to.

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A Tough Yarn. A newspaper at Kastamansi states, according to a Ceylon paper, that while a postman was shooting in a forest near that place he heard the growling of a bear, which he found under a tree suffering great pain from a large thorn in his paw.

Two dead, three badly hurt, others slightly hurt and a passenger train burned is the result of a head-on collision between passenger train No. 16, from Petersburg, Virginia, and Charleston railway Thursday evening at Coal Valley.

ONLY ONE ESCAPED. Thirty-five Men Die in a Coal Mine Fire.

A HORRIBLE HOLOCAUST. Men Suddenly Found Themselves Shut off from Life by a Wall of Raging Flames.

The worst disaster in the history of coal mining in Wyoming since the Almy horror eight years ago, occurred at Diamondville Wednesday night. Thirty-five men are believed to have perished in a fire which started in mine No. 1 at the Diamondville Coal and Coke company.

THE FREE PASS RECORD

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EVIDENTLY A CRANK

A Man Visits Charleston Who Is Certainly Of.

Mr. James Buchanan Weaver, who claims to be a retired lawyer of Philadelphia, announced today at the court house, where he was a visitor, that he would be a candidate for the Presidency of the United States in 1904. Mr. Weaver is a gold Democrat and says his platform will be a government for the people and by the people.

Mr. Weaver is an ex-Confederate soldier, having fought under Lee in the Army of Northern Virginia. After the surrender he drifted to Philadelphia, where he went into the drug business, studied medicine and finally took up the law. As a lawyer, he says, he soon made a name for himself as well as his wife died and having no other means he retired and of late years he has been traveling and studying political questions.

The morning Mr. Weaver was a visitor at the court house was a strange one when he entered but it was not long before he knew Judge Aldrich and every member of the Charleston bar who was present in the court house at the time. He introduced himself, declaring to newly made friends that he expected to be elected President of the United States in 1904. He said that he was a grand nephew of President Buchanan and had a right to the office.

"Oh, a smart man," said Mr. Weaver, in talking to an Evening Post reporter. "I know how to build political fences that Mark Hanna with all his wealth and power can not destroy. It will take Aunt Carrie Nation and her little hatchet to smash the political fences that I have constructed."

"Charleston is a gold bug town and you can say to the people through your paper that I'll be here when the next Presidential campaign opens and will talk Democracy and good gold money to the people of this ancient city. This is a grand old town and I love it. Just tell them that you saw me and that I want a big vote in Charleston."

Mr. Weaver talked about blind tigers in the city, declaring that they were as thick as wild birds in the summer time, and while he has only been in Charleston a few days he knew all the ropes and could scare up a tiger at any old time.

Yesterday he visited the city hospital and St. Francis Xavier Infirmary, and went over to the Isle of Palms. "At the palm beach," he said, "I swiped a palmetto, boxed it up and sent it to my little darling in Philadelphia. 'Oh, you need not laugh, for I am engaged, even if I am a widower,' he exclaimed."

"Tell the people of Charleston that I am going to call on Gov. McSpens and get his influence and support in my race for the Presidency."

Mr. Weaver said he was going to stay in Charleston for several days longer and that he would receive all politicians at the Charleston Hotel.—Charleston Post.

March Weather. The following data, covering a period of thirty years, have been compiled from the weather bureau records at Charleston for the month of March.

Mean or normal temperature, 57 degrees. The warmest month was that of 1871, with an average of 64 degrees. The coldest month was that of 1872, with an average of 50 degrees.

The highest temperature was 86 degrees on March 21, 1897. The lowest temperature was 24 degrees, on March 5, 1873.

Average date on which first "killing" frost occurred in autumn, November 20. The latest date on which "killing" frost occurred in spring, March 3.

Average precipitation for the month 3.78 inches. Average number of days with 0.1 of an inch or more, ten.

The greatest monthly precipitation was 9.78 inches in 1876. The least monthly precipitation was 5.59 inches in 1887.

The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any twenty-four consecutive hours (record extending to winter of 1884-1885 only) was trace inches on March 7, 1899.

Average number of clear days, 11; partly cloudy days, 12; cloudy days, 8. The prevailing winds have been from the southwest, 26 per cent.

The highest velocity of the wind was 45 miles from the northeast on March 30, 1898.

Outrage by a Negro. An unknown negro entered the residence of Mrs. Eastman, 86 Spring street, in the heart of Atlanta, Georgia, Thursday morning, and compelled her to cook breakfast, then, tying her feet and hands, he quietly ate the breakfast, after which he set fire to the house by placing a quantity of paper in the bed where she was lying. Mrs. Eastman's life was in danger, but she was rescued by the fire department. Mrs. Eastman screamed and assistance came before the fire had gained much headway. Search is now being made for the negro.

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The worst disaster in the history of coal mining in Wyoming since the Almy horror eight years ago, occurred at Diamondville Wednesday night. Thirty-five men are believed to have perished in a fire which started in mine No. 1 at the Diamondville Coal and Coke company.

The blaze was first discovered shortly after the night shift commenced work. It is thought to have originated from a careless miner's lamp in the oil room. Thick flames made such progress that only a narrow escape was made by the two firemen in which it was confined. His name is John Anderson and he was frantically burned in running the gauntlet of the flames. He was suddenly confronted by a wall of fire and smoke and was upon his head in an overcoat he ran in the direction of the main entrance. He fell unconscious and was carried to the mouth of the mine. The alarm was sounded and hundreds of miners at work in the mines and on the outside rushed to the rescue of their fellow-miners. The fire had by this time made such progress that it was impossible to enter the rooms of flames.

The entire night was spent in confining the fire to the two entries and this morning it was necessary to seal them up to prevent the flames from spreading to other parts of the mine. This step was only decided upon after all hope of saving the lives of the men had been abandoned. Nothing could live five minutes in the fire, which was increasing in ferocity every minute.

The plugging of the two entries will smother the fire, but it may be several days before the barricades can be removed and the chambers explored. The great loss of men entombed is not yet known as a number are missing, some creating in ferocious anger in the hospital suffering from burns received while fighting the flames so that an accurate count is at present impossible.

The scenes at the mouth of the mine during the night and today were heart-rending. Relatives and friends of the entombed miners rushed into the mine, frantically waving their hands and crying to the mine officials and miners to save their loved ones.

Many of the women and children were slightly injured in the confusion of falling over obstacles in the darkness.

Diamondville has been